

Message Text

SECRET

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13

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FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2523

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

S E C R E T KAMPALA 1656

E. O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: ASEC

SUBJ: GOU RECRUITMENT OF LOCAL EMPLOYEES TO REPORT ON
OFFICIAL AMERICAN PERSONNEL

NAIROBI FOR RSOR

1. ON 15 MAY 1973 USIS LOCAL EMPLOYEE, DAVID RWOMASHANA, INFORMED PAO MATEER THAT HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY AN OFFICIAL OF THE UGANDAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, G. C. R. BAGUMA, AND ASKED TO REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE AMERICAN PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO USIS IN KAMPALA. DURING RWOMASHANA'S CONVERSATION WITH BAGUMA, WHICH TOOK PLACE AT 75 BUKOTO ROAD IN KAMPALA, RWOMASHANA WAS TOLD THAT HE WOULD RECEIVE REMUNERATION FOR HIS SERVICES. BAGUMA SAID THAT HE WAS ALREADY PAYING ONE USIS LOCAL EMPLOYEE 500 SHILLINGS A MONTH TO REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF HIS AMERICAN EMPLOYERS.

2. RWOMASHANA WAS SPECIFICALLY ASKED TO IDENTIFY ALL UGANDANS IN CONTACT WITH PAO MATEER AND INFORMATION OFFICER CANNING. HE WAS ALSO ASKED TO REPORT ON THESE OFFICERS' MOVEMENTS OUTSIDE KAMPALA. BAGUMA SAID HE REALIZED THAT THE AMERICANS DO NOT ALLOW THEIR LOCAL EMPLOYEES TO HANDLE CLASSIFIED PAPERS, BUT HE WANTED RWOMASHANA TO BE ALERT TO ANY POSSIBILITY OF GAINING ACCESS TO AMERICAN PLANNING PAPERS. RWOMASHANA WAS ALSO ASKED TO DETERMINE IF THE UNITED STATES WAS SUPPORTING OR HELPING TO ORGANIZE ANY INVASION FORCE.

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3. BAGUMA SAID THAT PRESIDENT AMIN HAD PERSONALLY ORDERED THE GOU TO PLACE INFORMANTS IN ALL AMERICAN OFFICES. BAGUMA WAS TOLD TO RECRUIT AMONG HIS OWN TRIBESMEN. BAGUMA AND RWOMASHANA ARE OF THE KIGA TRIBE (FROM KIGEZI).

4. EARLIER IN THE DAY, THE DRIVER OF USAID DIRECTOR JOHNSON, JAMES KAZARWA, TOLD RWOMASHANA THAT HE MUST CALL BAGUMA (TEL 30202) AND SET UP AN APPOINTMENT. KAZARWA SAID HE HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY BAGUMA EARLIER AND HAD AGREED TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON USAID PERSONNEL BUT HAD FOUND NOTHING TO REPORT. THE MEETING DESCRIBED IN PARA ONE ABOVE WAS THE RESULT OF THIS PHONE CALL.

5. RWOMASHANA HAD ADVISED PAO MATEER OF HIS CONVERSATION WITH KAZARWA PRIOR TO HIS MEETING WITH BAGUMA, SEEKING ADVICE AS TO WHAT HE SHOULD DO. RWOMASHANA WAS AFRAID TO REFUSE TO COOPERATE WITH BAGUMA FOR FEAR OF BEING ASSASSINATED. MATEER TOLD RWOMASHANA THAT HE COULD REPORT ON ANYTHING HE WANTED BECAUSE USIS HAS NOTHING TO HIDE FROM THE GOU. MISSION IS AWARE THAT THIS COULD BE PROVOCATION ON THE PART OF THE GOU AND DOES NOT WANT TO GIVE AMIN AN OPPORTUNITY TO ACCUSE ONE OF ITS OFFICERS OF ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES BY ACTIVELY PURSUING THE MATTER FURTHER WITH RWOMASHANA. SINCE RWOMASHANA REPORTED THE DETAILS OF HIS MEETING WITH BAGUMA VOLUNTARILY, WE ASSUME HE WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO WITHOUT PRODDING FROM MATEER.

6. MISSION BELIEVES WE CAN EXPECT MORE OF THE SAME SINCE THE GOU IS ABLE TO PUT CONSIDERABLE PRESSURE ON OUR LOCAL EMPLOYEES TO SERVE AS THEIR INFORMANTS. RSO LARSON MAY WISH TO VISIT KAMPALA IN THE NEAR FUTURE TO ASSESS THE THREAT.

7. A CHECK OF THE JULY 1972 GOU STAFF LIST REVEALS THAT A. C. BAGUMA, AGE 42, WORKS IN THE ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. ACCORDING ANOTHER SOURCE, A CHARLES BAGUMA WAS PREVIOUSLY ASSIGNED TO THE UGANDAN MFA IN LONDON AND WAS REPORTED AS OF THAT TIME (MARCH 1970) TO BE A SUSPECT UGANDAN INTELLIGENCE OFFICER OR COLLABORATOR. THIS INDIVIDUAL IS POSSIBLY IDENTICAL TO G. C. R. BAGUMA DESCRIBED ABOVE.

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